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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

STERCHI et al.

Atty. Ref.: 723-1259

Serial No. Unknown

Group:

Filed: February 19, 2002

Examiner:

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONTROLLING
ANIMATION BY TAGGING OBJECTS WITHIN A GAME
ENVIRONMENT

11002 U.S. PTO
10/078526
02/21/02



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February 19, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. One copy of the reference(s) is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement ("IDS") is being filed within three (3) months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

This IDS is being filed more than three (3) months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this IDS. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(1).

b. I hereby certify that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(2).

c. Attached is our check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p). Please credit or debit Dep Acct No. 14-1140 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

This IDS is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check in the amount of \$180.00 to cover payment of the petition fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(I)(1). Please credit or debit Deposit Account No. 14-1140 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in the attached communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this IDS. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(1).

b. I hereby certify that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(2).

Relevance of the non-English language reference(s) is discussed in the present specification.

The reference(s) was/were cited in

A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language reference(s) appears in the Appendix hereto.

The Examiner's attention is directed to co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. _____, filed _____, which is directed to related technical subject matter. The identification of this U.S. Patent Application is not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to that application now or upon issuance of the present application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited application and the art cited therein during examination.

Copies of the references were cited by or submitted to the Office in parent Application No. _____, filed _____ and are being resubmitted herein for the Examiner's consideration.

Form PTO 1449 is attached

with copies of the aforementioned references.

Please charge any fee associated with the filling of this paper to our Deposit Account No. 14-1140.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

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